

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 MCT-01 SY-05 /072 W  
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R 170555Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6888  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMCONSUL MEDAN  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMCONSUL SURABAYA  
CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, ID  
SUBJECT: THE TRIAL OF FAHMI BASYA-TESTIMONY BEGINS

REF: 77 JAKARTA 15806 (DTG 250749Z NOV 77)

1. SUMMARY: AFTER FAHMI BASYA, A FORMER UNIVERSITY STUDENT  
ACCUSED OF RADICAL MUSLIM CONNECTIONS AND PLANNING ACTS OF  
ARSON, REFUSED TO TESTIFY IN HIS OWN BEHALF AT EARLY TRIAL  
SESSIONS, TESTIMONY WAS HEARD FEBRUARY 15 FROM ONE OF HIS  
ASSOCIATES. THE WITNESS SAID FAHMI HAD TOLD HIM TO MAKE  
BOMBS WHICH WOULD BE USED TO BLOW UP "IMMORAL ESTABLISHMENTS"  
IN JAKARTA, AND TALKED OF PLANS TO ASSASSINATE CERTAIN  
WEALTHY INDIVIDUALS. HE ALSO MENTIONED A PROMISE OF ARMS  
SUPPORT FROM LIBYA. A SECOND WITNESS REFUSED TO TESTIFY.  
THE TRIAL WAS WELL REPORTED BUT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF  
FAHMI'S REPORTED INTENTION TO KILL PRESIDENT AND MRS.

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SUHARTO AS PART OF HIS PLOT. HE HAS NOW BEEN LINKED WITH

THE RADICAL HOLY WAR COMMAND, BUT THE TRIAL SHOWS LITTLE  
INDICATION OF BECOMING A POPULAR ATTRACTION. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER A NUMBER OF SESSIONS IN WHICH DEFENDENT FAHMI BASYA, A FORMER UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA STUDENT ACCUSED OF BELONGING TO THE RADICAL MUSLIM GROUP KOMANDO JIHAD (HOLY WAR COMMAND) AND PLOTTING TO BLOW UP OR SET FIRE TO A NUMBER OF PLACES IN JAKARTA, REFUSED TO ANSWER ANY OF THE COURT'S QUESTIONS, HIS TRIAL RESUMED FEBRUARY 15 IN JAKARTA TO HEAR TWO WITNESSES WHO HAD STUDIED WITH IM. (FAHMI HAD CLAIMED THAT ONLY ALLAH COULD JUDGE HIM, AND HE REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THE COURT'S AUTHORITY OR ACCEPT A DEFENSE COUNSEL.)

3. DJAELANI, ONCE A STUDENT AT THE STTJ TECHNICAL ACADEMY WHERE FAHMI BAYGH USED TO LECTURE, TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD BEEN NAMED LEADER OF A FOMANDO JIHAD SECTOR AT STTJ BY THE DEFENDANT. HE SAID FAHMI'S LECTURES DEALT WITH RELIGION AND KORAN READING, BUT AFTERWARDS HE WOULD OFTEN TALK OF PLANS TO BLOW UP "IMMORAL PLACES" IN THE CAPITAL. DJAELANI SAID FAHMI HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO MAKE BOMBS WHICH WOULD BE USED TO BLOW UP AMUSEMENT PLACES IN JAKARTA' ANCOL BEACH RESORT AREA AS A "SHOCK TREATMENT" FOR THE GOVERNMENT, BUT HIS HOME-MADE EXPLOSIVES PROVED WOTHLESS. DJAELANI ADDED THAT FAHMI ALSO MENTIONED PLANS TO ASSASSINATE CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE AMONG THE TEN RICHEST PERSONS IN JAKARTA. FAHMI HAD ASSURED HIM, HE SAID, THAT A TRUCKLOAD OF ARMS WOULD BE PROVIDED BY LIBYA AS ASSISTANCE TO THEIR MOVEMENT.

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4. THE SECOND WITNESS, MUHASRIL, ALSO A FORMER UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA STUDENT, REFUSED TO BE SWORN IN. WHEN INFORMED BY THE JUDGE THAT HIS REFUSAL COULD MAKE HIM LIABLE TO A NINE-MONTH PRISON SENTENCE, HE REPLIED THAT HE WOULD PREFER JAIL TO BEING IN A COURT WHICH HAD NO JURISDICTION OVER HIM. AT THIS POINT THE COURT ADJOURNED UNTIL MARCH 1 TO GIVE THE WITNESS A CHANCE TO CHANGE HIS MIND.

5. FAHMI BASYA, WHO WAS ARRESTED IN 1976, HAS BECOME A CELEBRITY NOT SO MUCH FOR HIS ASPIRATIONS TO ARSON AS FOR HIS ALLEGED PLAN TO KILL PRESIDENT AND MRS. SUHARTO. NO MENTION OF THIS FACT WAS EXPLICITLY MADE IN THE MANY NEWSPAPER REPORTS OF THE LATEST TRIAL SESSION, PRESUMABLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW PRESS RULES PROHIBITING CONTROVERSIAL REFERENCES TO THE FIRST FAMILY. MENTION OF THE TEN RICHEST JAKARTANS, HOWEVER, REVIVES A RUMOR PREVALENT TWO YEARS AGO THAT A LIST HAD BEEN DRAWN UP OF THE TEN RICHEST INDONESIANS. NO LIST EVER CAME TO LIGHT, BUT SPECULATION ON WHICH NAMES MIGHT BE INCLUDED CENTERED AROUND HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INCLUDING THE SUHARTOS. DJAELANI'S TESTIMONY REGARDING KOMANDO JIHAD SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT'S

CONTENTION THAT THE MOVEMENT REALLY EXISTS AS A SERIOUS  
THREAT TO LAW AND ORDER. COURTROOM ATTENDANCE HAD DE-  
CLINED AFTER EARLIER SESSIONS OF THE TRAIL PRODUCED NO  
TESTIMONY, AND ALTHOUGH IT MAY PICK UP SOMEWHAT FOLLOW-  
ING THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITY THE CONTINUING REFUSAL OF FAHMI  
BASYA HIMSELF TO TAKE THE STAND HAS PUT A DAMPER ON THE  
ENTHUSIASM OF HIS SUPPORTERS.  
MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRIALS  
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